Suggestions for Wording Beneficiary Designations

Since the beneficiary designation in the application is the sole designation, the accuracy and clarity of such designation is extremely important. The following sample designations are suggestions only. It is recommended that you seek professional or legal guidance when the death proceeds are large and/or the desired distribution of proceeds complex.

In designating beneficiaries, use given names and specify the relationship of the beneficiary to you. If there is not enough room on the application, attach a separate paper indicating either the exact beneficiary designation desired; or clearly specify your intent. Reference the attachment on the enrollment form (i.e., "separate beneficiary designation attached"). Sign and date both the enrollment form and the attachment.

Definitions

Primary Beneficiary(ies)	The person(s) or entity you choose to receive your life insurance proceeds. Payment will be made in equal shares unless otherwise specified. In the event that a designated primary beneficiary dies before you die*, the proceeds will be paid to the remaining primary beneficiaries or all to the sole remaining primary beneficiary. If designating percentages for primary beneficiaries, the total for all primary beneficiaries must equal 100%.
Contingent or Secondary Beneficiary(ies)	The person(s) or entity you choose to receive your life insurance proceeds if the primary beneficiary(ies) die (or the entity dissolves) before you die*. Payment will be made in equal shares unless otherwise specified or all to the sole remaining contingent beneficiary. If designating percentages for contingent beneficiaries the percentage for all contingent beneficiaries must also equal 100%.

^{*} See the "Simultaneous Death Provision" and "No Surviving Beneficiary" subsections in the Benefit Payment and Beneficiary Provisions of the Certificate of Coverage.

Sample Designations

Type of Designation	Wording to Use
Insured's Estate	In "Primary" space – Estate of Insured
One Beneficiary	In "Primary" space – Mary A. Jones, wife
Two Beneficiaries to share equally with survivorship	In "Primary" space – John E. Jones and Mary A. Jones, parents
Three or more Beneficiaries to share equally with survivorship	In "Primary" space – John E. Jones, Frank S. Jones, and Mary A. Jones, children
Two or more Beneficiaries with unequal distribution and survivorship	In "Primary" space - Fifty percent (50%) to Mary Jones, wife; Twenty-five percent (25%) to James Jones, son; and one-fourth twenty-five percent (25%) to Helen Jones, daughter. The share of any beneficiary named above, who is deceased at the time of death of the insured, shall be paid to the other beneficiaries or beneficiary names above, who shall be living in equal shares.
One Primary and one Contingent Beneficiary	In "Primary" space – Mary A. Jones, wife In "Contingency" space – Jane M. Smith, sister
One Primary and two Contingent Beneficiaries with survivorship	In "Primary" space – Mary A. Jones, wife In "Contingent" space – John E. Jones and Jane M. Smith, children

Two Primary and one Contingent Beneficiary	In "Primary" space – John E. Jones and Mary A. Jones, parents In "Contingent" space - Jane M. Smith, sister of the insured
One Primary and unnamed Children of the present marriage as contingent beneficiaries with survivorship.	In "Primary" space – Mary A. Jones, wife In "Contingent" space – The children born of or adopted by the marriage of the insured and Mary A. Jones
Two or more Beneficiaries to share equally without survivorship	In "Primary" space – One-half (1/2) to Mary Jones, wife; otherwise her estate; and one-half (1/2) to James Jones, son; otherwise his estate. [The same format may be used for unequal distributions, inserting different fractional or percentage shares; or as a contingent designation preceded by the name and relationship of the desired primary beneficiary and the words, "if living; otherwise"]
Trustee – Revocable Trust	In "Primary" space – First National Bank of Anytown, Colorado, Trustee, or its successor or successors in trust under trust agreement dated [insert date].
Testamentary Trustee	In "Primary" space – John Jones, Trustee under the Last Will and Testament of the insured.